

Articles and Orders, made and agreed upon the 9th Day of July, 1647.

and in the three and twentieth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord Charles,
by the Grace of God, King of *England, Scotland, France, and Ireland*; Defender of the Faith, &c.

By the Company of ADVENTURERS for the PLANTATION of the Islands of ELEUTHERIA, formerly called BUHAMA in
AMERICA, and the adjacent Islands to be observed and performed by all and singular ADVENTURERS, to
PLANTERS and dwellers upon, and all *Re*shants at the same ISLANDS.

W Hereas experience hath shewed us the great inconveniences that have happened, both in this Kingdom of *England*, and other places, by a rigid im-
posing upon all an uniformity and conformity in matters of judgement and practice in the things of Religion, whereby divisions have been made,
factions fomented, persecutions induced, and the publick peace endangered. And for that we well know, that in this state of darkness ~~and infidelity~~,
we know but in part, That there are both babes and strongmen in Christ: And that every Member who holds the head, and is of the body of Jesus Christ,
hath not the same place and office, nor the same measure of light, who yet desire and endeavour daily to increase in knowledge. And in the mean time
walk according to what they have received, in all godliness, justice & sobriety. And whereas experience hath also shewed us, That the peace and happy pro-
gress of all Plantations, doth much depend upon the good government thereof, the equal distribution of justice, and respect to all persons, without faction or distinction, the
certain knowledg and manifestation of every ones right and proprieties, and carefull provisions for common defence and safety.

It is therefore ordered, That all such person and persons, who are so as aforesaid qualified, shall be received and accepted as Members of the said Company of *Adven-*
turers, and into the said *Plantation*, notwithstanding any other difference of judgement, under whatsoever other names conveyed, walking with justice and sobriety, in
their particular conversations, and living peaceably and quietly as Members of the Re-publick.

That there shall be no names of distinction or reproach, as *Independent*, *Antinomian*, *Anabaptist*, or any other cast upon any such for their difference in judgement,
neither yet shall any person or persons, assume or acknowledge any such distinguishing names, under the penalty of being accompted (in both cases, either of imposing or
accepting, or assuming any such name or names) as enemies of the publick peace: nor shall any man speak reproachfully of any person for his opinion, or of the opi-
nion it self, otherwise then in the scripture Language.

That no Magistracie or Officers of the Republike, nor any power derived from them, shall take notice of any man for his difference in judgement in matter of Re-
ligion, or have cognizance of any cause whatsoever of that nature: But that their jurisdiction shall reach onely to men as men, and shall take care that justice, peace, and
sobriety, may be maintained among them. And that the flourishing state of the re-publick may be by all just meanes promoted.

That the present Adventurers, and all other persons, who within the space of one year now next ensuing, shall bring into the publick stock, the sum of 100*l.* shall be
admitted and reckoned into the number of the first *Adventurers*, their number not exceeding one hundred persons.

That every one of the number of the first *Adventurers*, shall have three hundred Acres of Land, laid out for him and his Heires for ever, in the first
convenient place which shall be chosen, by those persons of the number of first *Adventurers*, who go to the said *Plantation*, in the present expedition and shipping. And
that the said quantity of three hundred Acres for each first *Adventurer*, shall at the end of the first three yeares, or sooner, if the major part of the said number or Com-
pany of first *Adventurers* shall require the same, shall be divided and set out by lot, unto every particular person. And that in the mean time, all the same Land
shall be employed and improved for the joynit advantage of the said Company. And that for the further and better encouragement of the said first *Adventurers*, every
one of the said Company of first *Adventurers* shall have two thousand Acres more of Land, to be laid out for him and his Heires for ever, in such place or places as
shall be most convenient and satisfactory unto him, and least prejudicial or disadvantageous to the publick. And that this shall be effected with as much convenient
speed, as the occasions of the *Plantation* will permit. And that all the adjacent Islands shall be reserved to, and laid out and had for the use of the said Company of
first *Adventurers*.

That as well every one of the *Adventurers* aforesaid, as also every other person, who shall at any time or times, within three yeares transport, at his own charge, un-
to the said *Plantation*, any person, or persons, shall have and enjoy to him the said Transporter and his Heires for ever, the quantity of thirty five Acres of Land per per-
son, for every person which he shall so transport; the same Land to be set out and appointed for him, by such as shall be hereafter authorized for that purpose by the
first *Adventurers* upon the place. And that if any Servants or Children, or other persons who shall be shipped to be transported to the said *Plantation*, shall after their
shipping miscarry, or die by the way: yet nevertheless, the person at whose charge any such miscarrying or dying person, Child or Servant, was shipped shall have and
enjoy to him and his Heires for ever in the said *Plantation*, and to be set out and appointed as aforesaid, the quantity of thirty five Acres for or in respect of each one
person, so dying or miscarrying, in as ample manner, as if he had been safely transported, and come into the said *Plantation*. And that every other person and persons, that
shall adventure, after three yeares shall have five and twenty Acres.

That every Servant being a *Christian*, which shall be transported to the said *Plantation*, and shall serve out his time agreed upon, to the use of him who transported
him, or of his Assignes, shall at the end of his said time of service, have and enjoy to him the said Servant and his Heires for ever, the quantity of twenty and five Acres
of Land, to be allowed and set out for him by such as shall be authorized by the Governor and Council. And for the better fortifying of the said *Plantations*, and
for the encouragement of the first *Adventurers* in a work of that hazard; and also for the exciting and awakeing the industry of all: It is further ordered and agreed;

That whatsoever Ordinance can be recovered of any wraks, shall be wholly employed for the use of the publick, and serve for the fortification of the *Plantation*.

That all other wraks which shall be recovered upon, or near the Islands, or upon or near any the adjacent Islands: And also all Mynes of Gold, Silver, Copper, Brasse
or Lead, Ambergreise, salt; and all rich woods, either for tincture or medicament, which shall be had or found upon or neer the Islands or territories aforesaid, in any Land
not divided, or set over to any particular proprietor, shall be delivered into the Custody of two such persons, Merchants or Agents for the said Company, as shall be
yearly chosen by the said Company for that purpose, and the same Mines, Wracks, Ambergreise, Metalles, Salts, and Woods, shall be by the said two Agents, made fit
for sale; and be by them withall convenient speed, sold for the best price and advantage, and the whole price and value thereof (the Charges and wages for the procuring
and fitting of them for sale, being first deducted and discharged) shall be divided into three equal parts and shares; and the first of the same three parts, shall be unto
him or them, who shall be the undertaker or finder thereof: the second part shall be paid and distributed unto, and among the first *Adventurers*, their Heires, Execu-
tors and assignes, equally: and the other third part shall be paid and delivered into the publick Treasury of the said *Plantation*, to be employed and laid out for the use of
the publick, by order and warrant from the Governor and Council there, for the time being. But if the same shall be found in any of the Lands appropriated, the first
third part shall be to the owner or proprietor of the same Lands, and the other two thirds as aforesaid: That when the *Plantation* shall sufficiently be fortified, and all
necessary publick works finished, and the generall Magazines sufficiently stored, then what shall be spared of the publick third in the wracks and Commodities aforesaid,
shall be employed in works of mercy and charity, and for the transporting from *England* and other places such godly people as shall be willing to go unto the said *Plan-*
tions, and are not able to beare the charge of their transportation and settling there.

That no person shall pretend unto, or claim any Wracks, Mynes, Ambergreise, Salt, or rich woods, as aforesaid; for, or by reason of their growing, or being in or upon his lot or share of ground,
which shall be appointed to him as above said; but all the said particulars shall be disposed and employed, as before is expressed. That none of the said rich Woods growing upon Lands not appropri-
ated, shall be cut down by any person, but by warrant first had and obtained from the Governor and Council for that purpose; and if any shall do otherwise, then he that shall cut, or cause to be cut,
any of the said Woods without such warrant, shall loose and forfeit all that share which he might under any qualification whatsoever, pretend unto in the said Woods; and the same forfeiture shall
be to the use of the said *Coloniae*. That if any places shall appear fit for making salt, which yet makes it not naturally, then the salt-works shall be perfected at the publick charge, and the provence
thereof to come into the publick Treasury, and be employed for ever for the publick service, as aforesaid. That no Inhabitant of these *Plantations*, shall in their converse with any of the *Natives* of any
of those parts, offer them any wrong, violence, or incivility whatsoever; but shall deal with them with all justice and sweetnes, so far as may stand with their own safety, thereby to work in them
a good opinion of love, unto the wayes and knowldg of God, which every one shall endeavour to hold forth, and communicate unto them in the best manner that they can. And whereas the Com-
pany is informed, that there are some *Indians* have been taken and sold at some of the *Caribe Islands*: It is therefore agreed and ordered, that the *Indians* shall be sought out and redeemed: And af-
ter they have some time continued in those *Plantations*, for their instructions, and make them sensible of the benefit. They shall be then returned to the places from which they were taken, that every
Planter shall himself provide Arms and Ammunition sufficient, for his own persons (going to the said *Plantations*) and for every Male that he shall transport thither, who is or shall be from time
to time able to bear Arms, and that such adventurer shall not have his share of Land set out unto him for any Male person, unless he be as aforesaid, provided of sufficient Arms and Ammunition for
them. That all in the said *Plantations* from the age of sixteen to sixty years, shall be ready to come to the several Rendezvous appointed them, upon any Alarm, ready and armed for the defence of
the *Plantations*; That none shall be compelled to take Arms, or go to war out of the Country unless it be for the necessary defence thereof, and to expel or divert an eminent invasion, neither shall
any be suffered to take any depredations or invasions upon any, either by Sea or Land, unless upon a War first begun by them, and open War by the said *Plantations*, first denounced against them. That
the Government of the said Islands and *Plantations*, shall be continued in a Senate of the number of one hundred persons; and that the Company of the first *Adventurers* aforesaid, shall at present be
the same Senate. And whensoever any of them shall die or sell away his Interest in the said *Plantations*; then there shall be another elected in his roome from time to time, by the Major part of the
said Senate, out of the other *Adventurers* and *Planters* Resiant in the said Islands. And the same election shall be made in this manner, (viz.) First, 20, sixt persons shall be nominated. Then those
20, reduced to the number of 4, by scrutiny, and out of those 4, one to be chosen by Ballotines. And so from time to time, as often as any Member of the said Senate, shall decease or shall
alien or discontinue his interest in the said *Plantations*, or shall be amoved by the said Senate, upon just cause or complaint. And that the same Senate shall from time to time, make election of all Of-
ficers, for doing of justice, and distribution and setting out of Lands, and for the care and over-sight of all publick works, and shall have the ordering and disposing of all publick monies. That after
the first three yeares expired, there shall be yearly a *Governor* and 12 *Councilors* chosen out of the said number, of 100 Senators, who shall take the daily care of all things necessary for the prospe-
rity of the *Plantation*; and that it in nothing suffer detriment or decay. And that the publick peace be maintained between man and man, and speedy justice done unto every man that shall seek it
at their hands. And that the said *Governor* and *Council*, shall have power to call together upon any emergency, to the said Senate or so many of them, as shall then be upon the said Islands, and to act
and execute what shall be by the said convention of Senators, ordered and referred, or committed unto them. That the first *Governor* and *Council* shall be elected by the first *Adventurers* in *Eng-*
land, when the number of *Adventurers* who will transport themselves is once known. And that the same first *Governor* and *Council* shall continue in their Office three whole yeares from the first day
of their arrival at the said Islands or *Plantation*. That all succeeding *Governors* and *Council* shall after the aforementioned term expired, be yearly chosen on the first *Tuesday* in *December*, for one whole
year to come, beginning the first day of *January* following, by all the free-men of the said *Plantations*, by way of scrutiny and *Ballotines*, in such manner as is before expressed. That every person that
shall transport himself to the said *Plantations*, or desire to become a Member of the same *Plantation*, shall before his admittance thereunto, acknowledge his allowance, and consent unto all and every
one of these *Articles*; and by subscribing the same, bind himself to conformity thereto for the future. And this to be done before he be admitted into the said Company, and before he hath any
share or proportion of Land set out and assigned to him according to these *Articles*.

F I N I S.